

# Shining star of socialism suffers during three-year civil war

Inside this issue:

First sergeant celebrates 40 years in uniform Psyops surfs airwaves to bolster friendship

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## **TALON**

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### Word on the street...

"Do you have any Thanksgiving traditions?"



Sgt. 1st Class Tony Jones Military Pay NCOIC 220th Finance Det.

"I spend time with my family and catch the football game."



1st Lt. Nichole Beaudet Open Source Intel. Chief 628th MI Bn.

"My family usually cooks spaghetti along with the turkey because my brother and sister are vegetarians."



Sgt. Marvin Kraemer MP Dog Handler Area Support Group

"My birthday is on Thanksgiving so I call my twin brother and we both take a shot of Jim Beam."



Spc. Marshall Cook NBC NCO 1-183rd Avn. Bn.

"I spend time with my family and we tell stories about what we've done that year."



Sgt. Jerome Smith BSB Supply Sergeant 7thARCOM

"I always call home on that day. I've been in the Army for 14 years and I seem to be away from home every Thanksgiving."



Spc. Jon Quil Livingston Postal Finance Clerk 336th Postal Co.

"From Thanksgiving Eve until Thanksgiving Day, I stay up all night cooking the meal."



About the covers: Front, Thousands of gravestones fill what was once the Olympic soccer practice field in Sarajevo. *Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster.* Back, Cpl. Wendall Chavis, JMA Sappers, looks toward the end zone during the semi-final flag football game. *Photo by* 

Spc. Jessica Abner



## Lifer celebrates 40 years of service

Story and photo by Spc. Jessica Abner

Assistant editor, 354th MPAD

"Just one more year. That's what I kept telling myself," said 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Gerald Grove, 142<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Bn., who has spent 40 years in the military without a break in service. "I love adventure and change in my life."

Grove, 57, grew up around the military because both of his parents were in the Navy. "My parents met when my mother was a flight instructor and my father was a naval aviator," said Grove. "She trained my father in flying airplanes."

Now, Grove not only shares his military life with his parents but with his wife and children as well. "I brought my wife, Donna, into the Navy to work for me. I needed someone dependable." said Grove. "She liked it so much that she went active duty. When I joined the Army, she made the switch as well and currently serves on active duty in our home state of Utah."

Grove joined the Naval Reserve out of high school and spent 27 years in the Navy. He was the leading petty officer of a ship's company, which is equivalent to an Army first sergeant. During his seafaring service, he was activated and served in places like the Philippines, Cuba, Vietnam, and Japan. While in Vietnam, he was involved in missions such as inserting Special Forces operatives along coastlines and rivers so they could go into the country and perform their duties. In Guantanimo Bay he managed the information and education office for the naval air station. Grove was also involved in the naval escort of oil tankers in the Persian Gulf.

His military experience was not complete after serving in the Navy. Because of the 27- year service cap in place at the time, Grove fulfilled his naval service and decided he was not ready to end his military career, leading him to join the Army National Guard in 1989. "Since I've joined the Army, I do a lot more intelligence work and get to use the German language. I really



1st Sgt. Gerald Grove

like that aspect of the Army," said Grove. The Army has deployed Grove to places like Saudi Arabia and now Bosnia. He has performed duties as an interrogator and a counter intelligence agent. "The time I enjoyed most was interviewing prisoners of war. I enjoyed interacting with people a great deal," said Grove. "My job was very interesting. We made sure that we got the proper information from the prisoners and decided if that in-

formation would benefit the troops in the field."

Over the years Grove has witnessed many changes in the military. One of the things that he has observed is an evolution in technology. "Technology has really changed things. When I joined the Navy we got our first copying machines on the ships, ever since then computers have become a common thing," said Grove. "Now we use e-mail as a way to communicate."

Backed by the support of his family, Grove is proud to serve here in Bosnia. "I believe that Bosnia is a necessary tasking for our armed forces. I agree with the concept of stabilizing forces and I also believe that these are wise taskings for the Guard and Reserve forces," said Grove. "My only problem with these regular taskings for the Guard and Reserve is the impact on the family and the employer. I believe the military needs to work out a better program for the employers and a new plan to prepare families for more frequent deployments."

Back home in Utah he worked in law enforcement before retiring in July, 2000. He has two daughters; one who is a Petty Officer 1st Class (E-6) also working in the intelligence field for the Navy, and another who served in the Air National Guard, but currently attends Salt Lake Community College.

As far as his own military career goes, Grove is not ready to hang it up any time soon. "I plan on getting out when I'm 60 - as long as I can do PT," said Grove. So, don't expect to say good-bye to 1st Sgt. Grove in the near future, he has plenty of time left as a member of the Utah National Guard.

## American Indian Heritage Month Essay Contest

If you have ever wanted to try your hand at writing, here's your opportunity. Take some time and type a short essay about American Indian Heritage Month. The essay should be no more than 500 words and should in some way relate to the subject. If you have a story, experience, or even a poem, send it along.

What will you get for your effort? A panel of three to five judges will decide on a winner. The winner will re-

ceive a gift certificate for the Eagle Base Post Exchange and have his or her essay published in the Talon. Submissions are due no later than Friday, Dec. 6th.

Anyone may write an essay. Submit entries by email to:

John. Brady @ emailtc3.5sigcmd.army.mil



# Postal service expands for holidays

The Eagle Base post office would like to announce expanded service for soldiers. According 1st Lt. Darren Dovanne, officer in charge, due to increased volume and holiday mailing, the post office will expand service by placing a satellite mailing center at the post exchange for a limited time.

The service will provide soldiers the convenience of making purchases, wrapping, packing and mailing at one location. There will also be customs forms located at the PX. Look for the auxiliary post office in the PX and save some time. The schedule is:

> Dec 6-7 Dec 9-11

From 1300 to 1800



# Sarajevo seeks chance to overcome recent history through games

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster

Editor, 354th MPAD

**SARAJEVO**, Bosnia — Once considered a shining example of the success of socialism, the city of Sarajevo was thrust upon the world's stage for all to see when it hosted the 14th Winter Olympic Games in 1984.

The Games were a complete success as fledgling international skating stars, Scott Hamilton and Katarina Witt, captured gold medals. British ice dancing pair, Jayne Torville and Christopher Dean, captured the world's attention with their classic performance to Ravel's "Bolero" that is still talked about in skating circles. U.S. skiers and twin brothers, Phil and Steve Mahre, took gold and silver in the men's alpine slalom event, American Bill Johnson recklessly won the men's downhill, and the Soviet Union won the lion's share of medals during the height of the country's athletic prowess.

Memories of those achievements faded quickly as the site of those Olympic moments turned into one of the primary battlegrounds during the three and a half year civil war.

In 1984, the now extinguished Olympic flame burned for the duration of the 14th Winter Olympic Games.

The once gallant city has not yet recovered from three years of aggressive bombing and shelling from Serb forces. The complexes that housed Olympic athletes from around the world now lay in rubble. The children's hospital that overlooked one of the stadiums and the ice arena is completely bombed out and has not yet been declared safe from landmines. An ocean of graves now lays claim to the grassy field once used by soccer players for practice.

Sarajevo, the capitol of Bosnia and Herzegovina, is located on the Miljacka River, in the east central part of the country. Before civil war broke out in 1992, the city was an important cultural and commercial center with a multiethnic population of Muslims, Bosnian Serbs, and Bosnian Croats.

Sarajevo is the largest city in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The city is known for its many mosques, which were built when Ottomans ruled the city, between the 1400s and 1878. The war that lasted from 1992 to 1995 destroyed much of the distinctive architecture that has stood for centuries.

Some of Sarajevo's principal manufactures included carpets, silks, fabrics, jewelry, tobacco goods, and machine tools.

However, the war had a catastrophic impact on the city's economy. A great deal of Sarajevo's infrastructure, industry, and housing were damaged or destroyed, and production in all major industries declined. Unemployment climbed to more than 100,000 people during and after the war.

In 1992 Bosnia and Herzegovina declared its independence from Yugoslavia. Soon after, war broke out between Bosnian Serbs, who wanted to remain part of Yugoslavia and Bosnian Croats and Muslims. More than 150,000 residents fled Sarajevo while thousands of poor Muslims from rural areas settled in the city. Serb separatists abandoned the national legislature and refused to recognize the authority of the Bosnian government in Sarajevo. They established their own parliament in the nearby town of Pale, with their administrative headquarters in Banja



One of the thousands of grave markers used during the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Luka, and mounted an armed siege of Sarajevo.

During three years of destruction, more than 10,000 died. Thousands more were wounded. Many, including women and children, died on Sarajevo's main artery, aptly named Sniper Alley. At one point there were so many people who lost their lives, there weren't enough stones to mark gravesites. People reverted to the use of wood for grave markers of loved ones. Eventually, there was a shortage of letters to place names on the wood markers. From



This former children's hospital overlooks the Olympic Park. The hospital was completely destroyed during the war.



Almost no building was left unscarred by the war. Mortar and bullet strike marks are still a common site among many buildings in Sarajevo.

In 1994, the world's attention was forced to the ongoing carnage in Sarajevo. A Serb mortar struck a marketplace killing 68 people and wounding more than two hundred. The bloody scenes were broadcast around the world. Not long after this happened, voices around the globe cried out for military intervention against the Serbs.

Then President, Bill Clinton, issued an ultimatum to the Serbs to withdraw from Sarajevo. The Serbs quickly complied and a cease-fire was declared. However, the fighting was far from over. Serbs continued to attack and kill Muslims in towns declared United Nations' safe havens.

In Srebrenica, one of the U.N. safe havens, peacekeepers stood by helplessly as the Serbs systematically selected and then slaughtered more than 7,000 Muslim men and boys between the ages of twelve and sixty — it is considered one of the worst mass murders in Europe since World War II. The bodies were deposited like trash into massive graves. General Ratko Mladic, Serb forces commander, is still wanted for

war crimes for this and other incidences. To this day, remains are still being identi-

fied.

The separatists wanted to divide the city into two distinct areas: one as the capital of Bosnia, the other as the capital of a Serb republic. The predominantly Bosnian Muslim government opposed partition and gained international support to keep Sarajevo united.

Under the Dayton Peace Accords, signed in 1995, a NATO led force to maintain peace was stationed in the country and Muslims, Serbs, and Croats agreed that Sarajevo was to remain united as the capital of Bosnia.

These days, while much of Sarajevo still remains damaged by the war, a great deal of planning and rebuilding is in the works. The city actually vied for the 2010 Winter Olympics but was pared form a list of strong competiters. According to a recent article in the Balkan Times, many other cities are also competing to host the 2010 games. One of the greatest hurdles for Sarajevo was the estimated \$500 million to cover the cost of hosting the games. Officials hoped to get the funds through donations. The final IOC decision is expected in July 2003.

Whether or not the once majestic city of Sarajevo will ever again play host to the Olympic games is unknown. What is known is that the country in which Sarajevo lies is rebuilding lives destroyed by the war. Perhaps in the future, the sea of graves that lie in the shadow of Olympic Stadium will once again see the light of the flame that symbolizes the world community coming together to compete as friends.



From almost every vantage point of the Olympic park, you can see graves of those killed during the three years of Serb aggression on the city of Sarajevo.

#### **TALON**





Home team hoop fans were treated to a competitive exhibition of basketball as the Eagle Base team defeated team Banovici 86-68 on Nov. 14th. "We worked as a team," said Maj. Shaun Jones, head coach. "They were more relaxed and felt better about playing the game." This is the Ambassadors second game of the season, but they look forward to future wins.

"The team was focused and they showed intensity by putting 110 percent on the court." said Otis Hawes, assistant coach. *Photos by Spc. Jessica Abner* 











